MEASURES FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT EIA REPORT

Implemented November 1, 2019

The Construction Project Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report Compilation Supervision and Management Measures focus on building a during- and post-management system. To ensure the effective implementation of the EIA system, technical support will be provided through regulatory measures, such as standardized compilation requirements, enhanced supervision and inspection, and credit management and accountability investigations implementation.

In addition, the measures highlight the key responsibilities for construction companies and that they are responsible for reporting quality issues and any non-compliant actions made by the organization or its staff, and will be held responsible whether compiled internally or through a third party.

The measures replace the Measures for the Administration of Environmental Impact Assessment Qualification of Construction Projects. According to the relevant provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Law, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) is currently formulating three supporting documents to be issued in the future.
COMPREHENSIVE CONTROL PLAN FOR VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

Issued June 26, 2019

The plan aims to reduce VOCs by 10% by the end of 2020, as well as control greenhouse emissions in a coordinated manner and promote the continuous improvement of ambient air quality in key regions and industries. Mandatory standards will be implemented to manage VOCs in several industries, including petrochemical, chemical industrial coatings, packaging and printing, oil storage, and transportation. Advice for implementing controls for five types of VOCs emissions sources (including raw and auxiliary materials, products, waste materials and organic polymer materials):

- Storage
- Transfer and transportation
- Equipment and pipeline components leakage
- Open liquid surface evaporation
- Industrial processing

The plan also proposes to accelerate the revision of the standardized quality system for products containing VOCs and, by the end of 2019, introduce technical requirements for low-VOCs coating products. Revisions to the standards for hazardous substances in building wall coatings, wood coatings, vehicle coatings and industrial protective coatings will also be made and mandatory standards for VOCs in inks, adhesives and cleaning agents formulated.

COMPREHENSIVE CONTROL PLAN FOR INDUSTRIAL FURNACE AIR POLLUTANTS

Issued July 9, 2019

Source analysis results show that industrial furnaces account for about 20% of the fine particulate matter (PM2.5) pollution sources in Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei and surrounding areas. The plan lays out several steps to help curb air pollution from industrial furnaces, including:

- Establish a detailed management list of industrial furnaces
- Achieve full-coverage supervision
- Accelerate elimination of non-compliant industrial furnaces
- Implement fuel cleaning and low-carbon replacements
- Promote the comprehensive improvement of industrial furnace facilities
- Strengthen environmental protection management and organized and fugitive emissions control

By the end of June 2020, emission standards for air pollutants in the foundry, household glass, glass fiber, mineral wool and calcium carbide industries will be completed.

GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT OF CONTAMINATED SITES

Implemented April 23, 2019

The Technical Guidelines for Groundwater Remediation and Risk Management of Contaminated Sites (HJ 25.6-2019) stipulates the formation of a technical plan related to project design and construction, operations and monitoring, impact assessment and post-project environmental supervision of groundwater remediation and risk management of contaminated land. Groundwater remediation and risk management of radioactive and pathogen-contaminated plots are not affected by these guidelines.
GUIDELINES FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Issued August 12, 2019

Guidelines for Chemical Industrial Park Safety and Risk Management (Trial) and Management Guidelines for Safety and Risk Screening of Hazardous Chemicals Enterprise clarify the scope of application and basic principles, list items for investigation and set out the corresponding checklists for each regulation.

Local emergency management bureau at all levels and state-owned businesses are charged with publicizing the new guidelines and carrying out training as required. Compliance progress will be tracked by local bureaus and businesses will be required to rectify safety risks within a given timeframe, as well as work towards limiting major safety issues.

BEIJING MUNICIPAL PROVISIONS ON WORKPLACE SAFETY PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Implemented July 15, 2019

The regulation comprises 55 provisions that cover the whole process and all of the links in production and workplace safety, including defining main responsibilities. It establishes and improves the eight major responsibilities system - work safety organizations and bodies, rules and regulations, funding assurance, education and training, safe management of site and equipment facilities, daily management, risk management and control, emergency rescue and legal responsibility.

In addition, the responsibility system for risk management and emergency rescue, as well as the legal responsibility system, must be established or improved to align with the regulation. Companies and principal responsible persons who have not fulfilled their workplace safety responsibilities in accordance with the law shall be punished regardless of whether or not an accident occurs.

GANSU PROVINCE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REGULATIONS

To be Implemented, January 1, 2020

The revised regulation adds provisions on public monitoring and early warning of environmental pollution and aims to prevent and control agricultural non-point source pollution and rural living pollution. The regulation provides guidance to agricultural production operators to carry out arable and pastoral farming scientifically, and applies agricultural inputs such as pesticides and fertilizers, and disposes of agricultural waste such as agricultural film and crop straw to prevent non-point source pollution.

The relevant prohibitive regulations are supplemented in accordance with the Environmental Protection Law:

solid waste and wastewater that do not meet agricultural standards and environmental protection standards are prohibited from being used on farmland. When agricultural inputs such as pesticides and fertilizers are used, and irrigation is carried out, measures should be taken to prevent heavy metals and other toxic and harmful substances from polluting the environment.

IN TOUCH

For more information, please contact:
Mr. Xiao-Jian Zhou, Managing Director
Tel: +86 21 6473 6885
xjzhou@ramboll.com

We prepare the China Update to apprise clients of major EHS regulatory developments in China. It is not intended to constitute legal advice and should not be relied upon as such.